

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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***Note:** Director Slaughter will be available for interviews today between Noon and 2PM. Please call Bob Anez at 444-0409 to schedule a time.*

Director of Department of Corrections Retires

(HELENA) – Today Bruce Nelson, Chief of Staff to Governor Brian Schweitzer announced the retirement of Bill Slaughter, Director of the Department of Corrections. After 30 years of public service Slaughter has decided to retire from state government. Governor Schweitzer is still on a military trip overseas.

The Governor said in a phone conversation, “Bill will be missed. His dedication to public service is commendable. I have enjoyed getting to know Bill and it has been an honor to have him as a part of my cabinet and team.”

Director Slaughter, who has been living apart from his family for the past six years said, “It’s a struggle balancing home and work. I am ready to retire from state government and do something else, try something different.”

He continued, “I believe Governor Schweitzer is the right man for Montana and that he has the right vision for corrections. I will continue to support this administration in every way I can through the transition of my successor and beyond.”

Slaughter says some of the highlights of his career as director have been the felony DUI corrections program, his work on community placement and his work on innovative ways to address methamphetamine addiction.

Nelson said that Slaughter has agreed to stay on as director until the end of June and that the Governor will announce his successor before that time.

Bill Slaughter, 55, was appointed by Governor Schweitzer in 2004 and in 2001 by Governor Judy Martz. Prior to that Slaughter served as Gallatin County Sheriff. He also worked as Patrol Division Supervisor/Shift Commander, Senior Lieutenant/Shift Commander, Detective and Deputy all for the Gallatin County Sheriff’s Office. Slaughter graduated from Helena High, he received his bachelor’s degree in social justice from Montana State University, and attended both the F.B.I National Academy and Montana Law Enforcement Academy. He is married to Renee; they have one son, Jess and a 9-month-old grandson.

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